

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0052] A lever-type electrical connector assembly reduces the connection mating forces required to mate female and male connectors. The connector assembly employs a first connector with cam follower projections, a base housing with cam grooves and a sliding guide rail, a slide lever housing including a sliding projection and a sliding guide rail, and a cover housing pivotally mounted on the base housing, the cover housing having a sliding projection. As the cover housing is rotated from an open to a closed position, it engages the sliding projection in the guide rail to permit rotation of the lever housing. This rotation engages the sliding projection in the guide rail. As the lever housing is rotated from an open to a closed position, it rotates the cam grooves to engage the cam follower projections thereby drawing the first connector into the base housing to a connected position.